

Scripture: Revelation 2
Singing: 221:1-3 -- 428:2-3 – 353:1, 3 – 291:1, 2, 6, 9

Series on Church # 6

Jesus Seven-Sided Vision for His Church (2)

I. Let Love to Me be Living and Doing (over-flowing)

II. Smyrna: *The Suffering yet faithful to Jesus Church*

A. Jesus is only praise about Smyrna

1. He suffers/ed as they suffer/ed (vs. 8, 10)

a. religious persecution (2:9)

b. political/social persecution (vs. 10)

2. Jesus reminds *not to fear but eye His promises* (10-11)

B. As Jesus walked among 'Smyrna' He saw something they did not see (vs. 9)

1. What did He see that they saw

2. What did He see that they saw not (Zeph. 3:12)

3. The riches He saw gladdened Him exceedingly (Zeph. 3:17)

C. Vision: **Adorn yourself with loving faithfulness even in the face of suffering**

III. Pergamos: *The Compromising Church*

A. Jesus pictures Himself as an earnest warrior: vs. 12, 16

1. He witnessed delightful faithfulness in some: vs. 13

2. He also witnessed a deeper degeneration that in Ephesus: vs. 14

a. Ephesus: *well-dressed orthodoxy* (2:2-3, 6)

b. Pergamos: *worldly-dressed orthodoxy* (vs. 14-15)

3. Jesus saw the banner of compromise & tolerance leading to corruption

a. pairing up with the pagan worldview is more than *leaving first love*

4. Without a return from sin, He will take up the sword against them (v. 16)
 - a. In your relationship with Lord it is *all or nothing: God or mammon!*

B. Let your love to Me be visible in your distinct identity as My people!

IV. Thyatira *The tolerating church*

A. No church is so *highly praised* and *seriously warned* as Thyatira

1. The 'Son of God' (vs. 18) witnessed five brilliant qualities (vs. 19)

2. Yet Jesus is deeply displeased as well: vs. 20-23

B. Who is this Jezebel?

1. We know *who she is not*: not God's voice or prophet (20, 24)

2. Jezebel can symbolize various *errors in doctrinal teaching*

C. Jesus's warnings are fierce – especially for our next generations (vs. 23)

1. Therefore Jesus challenged the 5th group: vs. 24-28

D. Vision: ***Remain focused on My wholesome, Biblical teachings in fear of God***